

Adult Literacy Contact Centre NEWSLETTER



July 1993

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A project of the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C.

"Mr. Literacy" Goes to Ottawa

A Vancouver librarian is one of six national winners of the Canada Post Corporation's first annual "Flight for Freedom Awards" for outstanding contributions to literacy.

Thomas Quigley, a Public Service Librarian in the Language and Literature Subject Division, Vancouver Public Library, was named co-winner in the Literacy Education Award category. The other winner in this category is Nicole Grondines-Ducharme, a Montreal literacy educator.

The Flight for Freedom Awards program was announced by Governor General Ramon Hnatyshyn on November 5, 1992 "to recognize the contributions of business, organizations, teachers and individuals to the cause of literacy in Canada."

Award recipients will attend a reception hosted by the Governor General at Rideau Hall in Ottawa in November 1993. They will be presented with trophies specially commissioned for the Flight for Freedom Awards.

The Literacy Education Award category, which recognizes "individual dedication and commitment to literacy," is one of four

categories in the awards program. To be eligible for this category, applicants "must be working in support of the literacy cause through the development of literacy programs, [and] the teaching of literacy skills or otherwise working within their communities in order to improve literacy levels."

According to Canada Post Communications Officer Audra Witiuk, there were a total of 276 submissions in all four award categories, and 92 submissions in the Literacy Education Award category.

Quigley was nominated for the award by the literacy advisory committee of the Greater Vancouver Library Federation (GVLF) and the staff literacy committee of the Vancouver Public Library (VPL).

The submission on behalf of Quigley says, "He is an inciter, with a seemingly endless stream of thoughts and insights on literacy, and a continual flow of ideas for literacy-related projects and proposals for both the library itself and the library partnered with outside agencies and associations....His commitment has truly earned him the moniker, 'Mr. Literacy.' "

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Quigley first became involved in literacy in the 1980's while developing the library system's English as a second language collection. This led to developing materials and resources for people with low literacy skills, as well as undertaking special projects, developing funding proposals, and assessing library services in both ESL and literacy areas.

Quigley was a founding member of Literacy B.C. and is affiliated with the GVLf literacy advisory committee and the B.C. Library Association (BCLA) Literacy Interest Group.

Some of the projects he has been engaged in include: the BCLA "Literacy, Learners and Libraries" workshop series in 1989/90; the GVLf Literacy Materials Workshops in 1991; the BCLA Library-Literacy Link project; and the "B.C. Books for Literacy" brochure.

He has also been involved in the development of a B.C. literacy cost-shared project to evaluate the VPL's literacy services in 1992-93.

The other three award categories and winners are:

Governor General's Flight for Freedom Award

Winner: Frontier College, Toronto, in recognition of its long-term achievement in the field of literacy in Canada.

Corporate Canada Literacy Award (sponsored by the *Financial Post*)

Winner: Nabisco Brands of Toronto, in recognition of its literacy skills upgrading programs in the workplace.

Individual Achievement Award

Winners: Elijah Allen of Inuvik, N.W.T., and Gisele Demers-Crytes of St. Philippe d'Argenteuil, Quebec, who "participated in literacy programs and succeeded in improving their literacy skills."



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The Adult Literacy Contact Centre is a project of the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C. and is jointly funded by the Ministry of Advanced Education, Training and Technology; and the National Literacy Secretariat.

The Centre welcomes receiving your literacy news by phone, fax or mail. We reserve the right to edit written submissions for the newsletter.

The newsletter is published monthly (except as noted). It is available free of charge to any individual or agency upon request.



Prince George Summer School

Training for dyslexic adults and children, and their parents, teachers, and tutors, will be offered in Prince George this summer.

The Prince George Dyslexic Support Society will hold its fifth annual "Multi-sensory Learning Summer School" from August 10 - 20, 1993 at the College of New Caledonia in Prince George.

The Society operates the Dyslexia Resource Centre, with a mandate "to provide information, education and support to dyslexics, their families, educators, and the general public." The Resource Centre sponsors workshops, information meetings and support group discussions.

The Summer School courses include:

❖ The Orton-Gillingham method of teaching reading, writing and spelling, described as "a phonetic approach which is structured, systematic, sequential and multi-sensory." The instructors are Arlene W. Sondag (BA, MA), a reading therapist and teacher trainer from Fairleigh Dickinson University in St. Paul, Minnesota, and Carol Johnson, a therapeutic tutor in private

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practice in Prince George.

❖ A "total language hour" for students Grade 7 and up who are poor at spelling, grammar, sequencing, composition, and organization. The instructors are Lois Lindsay, teacher, therapeutic tutor and teacher trainer, who is also past president of the Orton Dyslexic Society in Vancouver; and Carol Johnson.

The early registration deadline is July 25, 1993. Registration is limited to 20 participants.

For further information, contact:

Susan Keen
Coordinator
Dyslexia Resource Centre
The Prince George Dyslexic Support Society
104 - 490 Quebec Street
Prince George, B.C.
V2L 5N5
Phone: 564-8011 ☐

News from ALDA

Prizes from Diamonds to Dinner

Fourteen prizes with a total value of approximately \$4,500 will be awarded in the Adult Learning Disabilities Association (ALDA) Summer Lottery.

The lottery is a fundraising event for ALDA, a non-profit public awareness, referral and

counselling service that provides help for adults with learning disabilities.

Some of the raffle prizes are:

- ❖ grand prize: a ladies diamond and sapphire ring (14kt gold) valued at \$1,300.
- ❖ 1st prize: fitness package including a six-month fitness club membership, apparel and equipment, valued at \$1,000.
- ❖ 2nd prize: an automotive package including a car alarm, tune-up and a gas certificate, valued at \$720.
- ❖ 3rd prize: gift certificate from Canada Safeway, valued at \$250.

Other prizes include a two-day getaway at the Harrison Hot Springs Hotel and overnight accommodation with dinner for two at the Holiday Inn, Vancouver Centre.

The raffle tickets are for sale at \$2.00 each and are available at the following mall locations throughout the Lower Mainland:

- ❖ July 7 - 11: Eaton Centre Metrotown (Burnaby)
- ❖ July 14 - 18: Guildford Town Centre (Surrey)
- ❖ July 21 - 25: Lansdowne Park Centre (Richmond)
- ❖ July 28 - August 1: Westminster Quay Market (New Westminster) and

Semiahmoo Shopping Centre (White Rock)

- ❖ August 4 - 8: Brentwood Shopping Centre (Burnaby)
- ❖ August 11 - 15: Willowbrook Shopping Centre (Langley)
- ❖ August 18 - 22: Park Royal Shopping Centre (West Vancouver)

Tickets will also be mailed on request from the ALDA office. They can be purchased with VISA, Mastercard, and American Express.

The draw will take place on September 30, 1993 at the ALDA office.

LD Counselling Service

A free counselling service for learning disabled adults is available through the ALDA office in Vancouver this summer.

Lorena Pelly (RN, BA Psych.), has been hired as a part-time counsellor for two half-days per week to work with adults who have LD-associated difficulties with, for example, reading, writing, or conducting routine financial transactions (such as banking and making change) or with social situations. The service provides assistance with goal setting, education or career decisions, and social problems.

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ALDA says the counselling is open to anyone who suspects they may have a learning disability.

The service operates by appointment on Tuesdays from 9:30 a.m. to noon, and on Thursdays from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. It began on June 15, 1993 and continues until October 15, 1993.

Pelly, who is working on her Masters degree in Education, specializing in learning disabilities, has worked as a Special Education teaching assistant with the Vancouver School Board, and as a social worker with the provincial Ministry of Human Resources. She also conducts private (fee for service) tutoring and counselling of learning disabled adults.

For further information (on both the counselling service and raffle), contact:

Adult Learning Disabilities Association
Suite 1322 - 510 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C.
V6B 1L8
Phone: 683-5554
Fax: 683-2380 ☐

More Regional PD Workshops

Six fall workshops are scheduled as part of the Adult Basic Education Association of

B.C.'s current Regional Professional Development and Needs Assessment project.

The aim of the project is to provide PD activities for ABE and literacy practitioners in seven regions of B.C. One workshop has already taken place in the North Central region (in Prince George on June 11-12, 1993). A workshop in the Northwest region (Terrace) originally scheduled for May was cancelled and will take place instead this fall.

The following workshop regions and dates are confirmed:

Northwest Region (Terrace)
September 23 - 24

Cariboo-Okanagan Region (Kamloops)
September 30 - October 1

Northeast Region (Dawson Creek)
October 14 - 15

Kootenay Region (Cranbrook)
October 28 - 29

Vancouver Island Region (Nanaimo)
November 18 - 19

The dates and locations of workshops in the **Lower Mainland Region** are to be announced.

Workshop topics are being developed from suggestions received from the ABE field through a survey conducted earlier this year. Additional information on program content and local contacts for these workshops will be available in future issues of the *ALCC Newsletter*.

For more information, contact the Project Coordinator:

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2043 Swanson Place
Victoria, B.C.
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Phone: 598-9218 ☐

OUR OTHER SERVICES

As well as producing this newsletter, the Adult Literacy Contact Centre has services for all B.C.:

we give information and encouragement by phone to adults who want to know about adult basic education opportunities in their own community;

we provide literacy information to the non-profit and community-based sector, business, labour, the media, all levels of government and the public at large; and

we refer volunteer tutors to adult literacy programs.

Phone free from anywhere in B.C.

1-800-663-1293